

These platitudes might ring hollow were they not backed by substantive action, but under Mr. Platt's guidance Hewlett-Packard has established a tremendous philanthropy program in order to truly provide help to students of all ages. Because of Lew Platt's efforts and commitment, HP currently donates approximately \$55 million each year to education, with \$8 million going towards K-12 education. In my district, for instance, Hewlett-Packard has helped sponsor the San Jose Diversity in Education Partnership with San Jose State University, East Side Union High School District and Alum Rock Elementary School District. This initiative aims to increase the number of students who are prepared for college and interested in careers in engineering, and has worked with HP's Email Mentor Program, another initiative begun under Lew Platt, encouraging 5th through 12th graders to remain interested in math and science.

Mr. Platt has also helped establish a partnership between Hewlett-Packard and Independence, Silver Creek, and Overfelt High Schools in San Jose to encourage students to stay in school and continue their education after graduation from high school. The benefits of Lew Platt's belief in education, however, stretch far beyond the neighborhood of Hewlett-Packard's corporate headquarters in California. Under the guidance of Mr. Platt, Hewlett-Packard has undertaken and funded similar educational initiatives in Washington, Oregon, Colorado, Idaho, Georgia, Maryland, Delaware, and Massachusetts.

These broad educational efforts, which have meant so much to my constituents and to students across the country, have in many ways been a direct result of Lew Platt's vision, and for this all people who care about the education of our children owe him a debt of gratitude. Wrote Mr. Platt in an open company letter, "At HP, we recognize that supporting education is one of the most important things we can do to realize success for future generations, for our company, and for society as a whole." Lew Platt's corporate achievements at the Hewlett-Packard Company will be long remembered, the successes of the children he helped educate through HP will remain as an even stronger living reminder of the fine work he has done.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL CATANEO

HON. ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 1999

Mr. EHRLICH. Mr. Speaker, recently the City of Baltimore lost a beloved and respected gentleman, Mr. Michael Cataneo. "Big Mike" as he was widely known throughout his long career on the docks of Baltimore owned Cataneo Line Service, truly an example of the American Dream. His family immigrated from Italy, built the business from scratch and became a leading force in the development of the Port of Baltimore.

Those who knew "Big Mike" often referred to him as the walking encyclopedia of the Baltimore waterfront—not only could he relate every facet about every ship that had ever

been in the port of Baltimore, but he could provide one with all of his information, be it good or bad, about every person who worked on the waterfront, and all the politicians downtown, as well!

"Big Mike" will be remembered for his hard work, compassion, and sense of humor; for being a respected business leader; and for his contributions on behalf of the working men and women of the Port of Baltimore. The priest who presided at his funeral characterized Mike as a person who related to the little guy. His treated everyone with the same respect others showed him. Mike would help a needy person because he wanted that person to then be able to help others.

He and his lovely wife, Annie, were residents of Lutherville, Maryland and the Second Congressional District of Maryland for 38 years, and it has been my honor to represent them in Congress.

HONORING IRENE HANSON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 1999

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of a woman, who, for nearly 40 years, has worked to improve the quality of life for our citizens. On Tuesday, October 12, members of Flint's International Institute will gather to present to Mrs. Irene Hanson, its prestigious Golden Door Award, given annually to an individual who has made a positive impact on the greater Flint community and the Institute itself.

Born in December of 1920, in Breslau, Germany, what is now Wroclaw, Poland, Irene spent her early years as an apprentice in a wholesale paper company, and upon completing her apprenticeship, remained with the company as its bookkeeper.

After the war, Irene and her family, including her mother and two daughters lived in Hanover, West Germany, until the Displaced Persons Act brought them to Flint in 1952, under the sponsorship of Calvary Lutheran Church. Soon after, a third child, a son, was born.

After settling in Flint, Irene sought out and forged a relationship with the International Institute, a relationship that has continued to this day. She has served a great number of roles, including teacher, presenter, activities chair, and board member. It is in each of these positions that she has excelled in her efforts to enhance the lives of those she comes into contact with. Other positions followed, such as in 1962, where she worked as a receptionist, bookkeeper, and fitter at Flint Limb and Brace Company. In 1964, Irene began teaching German for Mott Adult Education, which she still continued to do.

In addition to her work with the International Institute, Irene has also been involved and remains active with the German American National Congress, the American Association of Teachers of German, and the St. Cecilia Society. She has also been an avid supporter of the Flint Institute of Music, Flint Institute of Arts, and the Sloan Museum.

Mr. Speaker, I am always fascinated by stories such as Irene Hanson's. Through tremen-

dous adversity, she was able to fulfill the true American Dream, and find success in her new homeland. She is truly an inspiration to all who come into contact with her. I ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to please join me to congratulate and wish Irene the very best.

HONORING BISHOP VERNON RANDOLPH BYRD, 105TH BISHOP OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 1999

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the newly elected and consecrated Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, the Right Reverend Vernon Randolph Byrd. He joins Rev. Dr. W. Bartalette Finney, Sr., Presiding Elder, Rev. Ralph J. Crabbe, and leaders in our community who contribute to the spiritual needs of our greater metropolitan area.

Bishop Byrd's spiritual education began at the age of twelve when he received his call to preach. By the time he was a teenager, he was ordained to preach by the late Bishop Frank Madison Reed, Sr. Bishop Byrd was a success in school and graduated from the public schools of South Carolina, and earned degrees at Allen University, and Boston University.

Prior to his tenure at the Northwest Missouri Conference Fifth District AME Church in Kansas City, Bishop Byrd served as a Pastor and Presiding Elder at several churches. His ministry served congregations including the Macedonia AME Church in Delaware, the St. Paul AME Church in Bermuda, the Newark District-New Jersey Conference, the Macedonia AME Church in New Jersey, the Morris Brown AME Church in Pennsylvania, and the St. James AME Church in New Jersey.

In 1984, Bishop Byrd was elevated to the episcopacy at the seat of the Forty-Second Quadrennial Session of the General Conference. A recipient of numerous awards, he has been honored with the Trumiez Award for outstanding work with retarded children in Delaware. He was recognized as an Honorary Member of the British Empire Medal by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, who bestowed the award to him for helping bring order to the Bermuda Isles during a period of civil unrest in 1964. Byrd was also named the 1966 Outstanding Young Man of the Year by the Bermuda Chamber of Commerce and given an Honorary Doctorate Degree from the Payne Theological Seminary in 1994.

Always involved with his community, he is an active member of civil and fraternal organizations, the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, the Royal Masonic Lodge of Scotland, and the NAACP. Bishop Byrd is married to retired school teacher, Theora Lindsey Byrd who serves the Church as the Women's Missionary Society Supervisor where they teach to others that "Unless Souls Are Saved * * * Nothing Is Saved!" They are the parents of two daughters and two sons and grandparents to six grandchildren.